

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00880 240706Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EB-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 /062 W
-----240713Z 017377 /14

R 240617Z MAY 77
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4598
INFO USDOC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 0880

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PMIL, ZBHLXJN BAGHDAD

1. FRENCH COMMERCIAL ATTACHE TOLD USINT OFFICER THAT THE
GOI IS TRYING TO USE "COMMERCIAL BLACKMAIL" TO FORCE
FRENCH TO REDUCE PRICES ON MIRAGE AIRCRAFT FOR WHICH GOI
IS NEGOTIATING. ALTHOUGH HE GAVE FEW DETAILS, HE SAID
THAT AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT GOI IS TRYING TO COERCE AIR
FRANCE INTO SIGNING A BOYCOTT STATEMENT. AIR FRANCE HAS
REFUSED BOTH BECAUSE IT WANTS TO RETAIN ITS ROUTES TO
ISRAEL AND BECAUSE SUCH A STATEMENT VIOLATES IATA
AGREEMENTS.

2. THREE OTHER SOURCES IN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY REPORT
THAT IRAQI BUSINESSMEN HAVE TOLD THEM THAT THE GOI HAS
DISCOURAGED THEM FROM SIGNING CONTRACTS WITH FRENCH FIRMS
AND HAS ALSO ISSUED A CIRCULAR TO GOI AGENCIES BANNING
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AWARDS OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS TO FRENCH FIRMS WITHOUT
THE PERSONAL APPROVAL OF REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL
VICE CHAIRMAN SADDAM HUSSEIN.

3. COMMENT: THE IRAQIS MAY BE TRYING TO KILL SEVERAL
BIRDS WITH ONE STONE. ACTION AGAINST THE FRENCH COULD
SERVE PURPOSE OF PROTESTING RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN

FRENCH-ISRAELI RELATIONS AS WELL AS APPLYING PRESSURE AGAINST FRENCH TO LOWER MIRAGE PRICES. IN REGARD TO THE LATTER THE GOI COULD BE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN PURCHASING MIRAGES, OR IT COULD BE USING THE "COMMERCIAL WEAPON" AGAINST FRANCE IN INTRICATE MACHINATION TO PLAY FRENCH AGAINST SOVIETS, FROM WHOM WE BELIEVE GOI IS MORE LIKELY TO BUY THE NEW AIRCRAFT IT DESIRES. WHILE GOI DESIRES IN PRINCIPLE TO DIVERSIFY ITS SOURCES OF MILITARY SUPPLIES, THERE ARE PROBABLY SOUND TECHNICAL REASONS WHY IT WOULD PREFER LATE MODEL MIG FIGHTERS TO THE FRENCH OR BRITISH DEALS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OT RECURRENT RUMORS.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WHICH PARIS OR MOSCOW CAN PROVIDE.

WILEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT SALES, TRADE COMPLAINTS, AIR ROUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770526/aaaaavva.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5d3568b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: PFOR, MILI, IZ, FR
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Type: TE
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